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November 19, 2004

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Re: U.S. Application No. 09/062,113
Filing Date: April 17, 1998
Title: Novel Proteins and Methods for Producing the Proteins
Applicants: Masaaki GOTO *et al.*
Atty. Docket: 16991.012

Sir:

The following documents are forwarded herewith for appropriate action by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office:

1. an Applicants' Inquiry Concerning Suspension of Action by the Examiner Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.103 and MPEP § 709; and
2. a return postcard.

Please stamp the attached postcard with the filing date of these documents and return it to our courier.

In the event that extensions of time beyond those petitioned for herewith are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned. Applicants do not believe any fees are due in conjunction with this filing. However, if any fees are required in the present application, including any fees for extensions of time, then the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fees to Arnold & Porter LLP Deposit Account No. 50-2387 referencing matter number 16991.012. A duplicate copy of this letter is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kristan L. Lansbery".

David R. Marsh (Reg. Atty. No. 41,408)
Rachel L. Adams (Reg. Atty. No. 54,660)
Kristan L. Lansbery (Reg. Agent No. 53,183)

Enclosures



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

re application of:

Masaaki GOTO *et al.*

Appln. No.: 09/062,113

Filing Date: April 17, 1998

For: Novel Proteins and Methods for Producing
the Proteins

Art Unit: 1647

Examiner: David S. Romeo

Confirmation No.: 2563

Atty. Docket: 16991.012

**Applicants' Inquiry Concerning Suspension of Action by
the Examiner Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.103 and MPEP § 709**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

According to a communication mailed May 12, 2004, the above-referenced application was suspended for six months to await the availability of a potential reference. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner in charge of this case provide a status update to the undersigned as soon as possible by calling 202-942-5186.

Respectfully submitted,

David R. Marsh (Reg. Attorney No. 41,408)
Rachel L. Adams (Reg. Attorney No. 54,660)
Kristan L. Lansbery (Reg. Agent No. 53,183)

Date: November 19, 2004

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